**Utilisation of Urban and Rural Wastes**

4991. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a comprehensive master plan for utilization of urban and rural wastes in the country has been prepared by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments have also been directed to make utilization of urban and rural wastes; and

(d) if so, the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on this plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) No Sir, no comprehensive Master Plan for utilisation of urban and rural wastes in the country has been prepared by the Central Government since the subject directly falls within the purview of State Government and concerned local bodies. With a view to protect that environment, the Government have provided guidelines and other regulatory provisions through Environmental Protection Act, 1986. The Central Government extend support for some research and development activities and provide technical advice for utilisation of such wastes. With a view to utilise the wastes for energy recovery, Ministry of non-conventional Energy Sources is implementing programmes on biogas development, biomass gasification and demonstration of high rate biomethanation from municipal, urban and industrial wastes. Financial support for conducting a survey of generation, utilisation and disposal of wastes has also been provided to local bodies in the selected cities. Ministry of Urban Development have also supported a programme for study of appropriate methods for collection, transportation and disposal of solid wastes for selected Municipal Towns.

(c) The Central Government is encouraging the State Governments by providing technical support and sharing the costs in implementation of the above mentioned programmes for wastes utilisation.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer against (a) above.

**Benefits of AIS Officers of North East Cadres**

4992. SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that realising the difficult working conditions in the North East Region, Government have extended benefits like House Retention, special Allowances, etc. for the A.I.S. officers, belonging to the North East Cadres;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government intend to revise the existing package of benefits, with a view to improving the working conditions and making the package more attractive;

(d) whether Government intend to curtail some of the existing benefits; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following benefits have been extended to the All India Service officers belonging to the North-Eastern cadres.

(i) Retention of house & Telephone for a period of 2 years after expiry of Central Deputation;

(ii) Relaxed cooling off for being eligible for next Central Deputation;

(iii) Deputation in continuation of Central Deputation, to a State of choice including own State subject to the condition that total period of deputation does not exceed 8 years at a time;

(c) to (e) The matter is under review.